

# FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared For: Natchez-Adams School District

> Prepared By: Charles Wellborn MFC

Time Period Covered by This Plan: 2012 - 2021

Date Plan Prepared: 2012-01-24

Plan Type: Stewardship / Stewardship

This plan was developed in accordance with the rules of the Stewardship program.

**Property Name: 51-T8N-1W** 

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#### LANDOWNER INFORMATION

Organization: Natchez-Adams School District
Name: Natchez-Adams School District

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1185

City, State, Zip: Natchez, MS 39120 Country: United States of America

Contact Numbers: Home Number:

Office Number: 601-445-2815

Fax Number:

E-mail Address:

Social Security Number (optional):

#### FORESTER INFORMATION

Name: Charles Wellborn, Adams-Wilk. Service Forester

Forester Number: 00446 Organization: MFC

Street Address: 75C Carthage Point Rd. City, State, Zip: Natchez, MS 39120

Contact Numbers: Office Number: 601-442-0472

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: cwellborn@mfc.state.ms.us

#### PROPERTY LOCATION

County: Adams Total Acres: 350 Latitude: -91.16 Longitude: 31.63

Section: 51 Township: 8N Range: 1W

#### **DISCLAIMER**

This information was derived from a small sampling of the forest resources. It reflects a statistical estimation that is only intended to be accurate enough for the purposes of making decisions for the short-term management of these resources. Events and circumstances may occur within the survey area that will physically alter the forest resources and therefore will not be reflected in this plan.

#### INTRODUCTION

This Forest Stewardship Management Plan will serve as a guide for accomplishing the goals and objectives for your property. In addition to addressing your specific goals and objectives, this plan includes recommendations for maintaining soil and water quality and protecting your forest from insects, disease, and wildfire. Recommendations are based on observation and assessment of the site.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

Timber Production

The goal is to produce high quality sawtimber. This will be accomplished through reforestation and timber stand improvement practices such as herbicide applications, prescribed burning, thinning at specified intervals, and other silvicultural practices. Forestry Best Management Practices will be implemented to prevent erosion and protect water quality.

### Wildlife Management - General

The goal is to provide a diversity of habitats suitable for a variety of game and non-game wildlife species. Habitat management will focus on developing a variety of food, cover, water, and space. This will be accomplished by establishing and maintaining access roads and firelanes, providing openings within the forest, and the management of trees located within the Streamside Management Zone.

#### PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

General Property Information

Section 51 is located in the extreme northeast corner of Adams County, bordering Jefferson County. The Jefferson County School District owns the northern part of this section. The Adams County part of the section is about 350 acres in size. Access to the section is by Low Water Bridge Road, which is a gravel public road that ends at a locked gate near the southwest corner of the section. We do have a key to the gate. We were locked out of this section from about 1997 until 2005 by a landowner who wanted money from the board for maintaining his road. He sold the land and the present owner gave us a key. The rest of the road that goes to the section is through private land. A new bridge was built over the old low water creek crossing in about 1992. Log trucks are not allowed to cross this bridge which creates some problems. The terrain is extremely rough. All of this section is a series of very steep ridges and gullies.

#### Archeological or Cultural Resources

No archeological or cultural resources were observed during our inspection of this property.

#### Water Resources

There are numerous creeks and drainages on the section, most of which flow to Coles Creek which is about one-quarter mile to the west. No perennial water resources were identified during a reconnaissance of the property. However, intermittent streams and drains identified will be managed in accordance with Mississippi's Best Management Practices.

#### Timber Production

The goal is to maximize the production of high quality timber. This will be accomplished through the application of timely thinning and other silvicultural practices designed to enhance timber quality and growth. Forestry Best Management Practices will be implemented to prevent erosion and protect water quality.

#### Threatened and Endangered Species

No threatened and endangered species were identified during the reconnaissance and evaluation of your property.

#### Interaction with Surrounding Property

Prescribed practices should be carried out in a manner that will minimize adverse impacts on surrounding properties. Consideration should be given to potential air, water, visual, and other impacts. In addition, practices carried out should have positive effects on the surrounding community such as improved wildlife habitat and soil stabilization.

#### Soils General

Soils were evaluated on the property to determine the suitability of the site for the proposed activities. Forest practices were planned so as to minimize erosion or other adverse effects on the soil. The following soils are identified for this property:

#### **SOIL TYPES**

#### Memphis

The Memphis component makes up 42 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 8 to 40 percent. This component is on uplands. The parent material consists of loess deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is well drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches is very high. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. There is no zone of water saturation within a depth of 72 inches. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 6e. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Gullied land is a miscellaneous area.

#### Gu

Generated brief soil descriptions are created for major soil components. The Gullied land is a miscellaneous area. Loblolly Site Index = 68.

#### GENERAL PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Forest Protection

A healthy, vigorously growing stand is the best defense to an attack from a variety of forest insects, plants and pathogens.

#### Insects and Diseases

Trees are subject to attack from insects and diseases. Different insects and diseases affect trees according to the age, species, and condition of the trees. Planted stands of pines and pure stands of hardwoods are particularly susceptible to attack. Since there are many different insects and diseases, no attempt will be made here to explain all of them. The property should be inspected at least annually for possible signs of insect and disease activity. Some things to look for are:

- Unseasonable leaf fall
- Discoloration of leaves or needles
- Pitch pockets on pine trees
- · Heavy defoliation of hardwood leaves
- Groups of three or more dying trees within a stand

This list does not cover all instances of insect or disease attacks. If anything unusual is noticed, report it to a forester. In most cases, insect and disease problems can be controlled if discovered early.

#### Fire Protection

Your forest should be protected from wildfire at all times. The best way to protect your investment is by establishing and maintaining firebreaks around the property. Guidelines for establishment and maintenance of firebreaks may be found in Mississippi Forestry Commission publication #107, *Mississippi's Best Management Practices*.

#### Grazing

Tree seedlings should be protected from grazing until such time as the terminal bud of the sapling is beyond reach of livestock. Domestic livestock should be denied access to the tree planting area.

#### **Boundary Lines**

It is the responsibility of the landowner to ensure that all property lines and boundaries designating areas to receive forestry work are clearly identified and visible to all contractors.

Boundary lines were last painted in 2006. Boundary lines are scheduled to be painted in 2013 and 2018.

**Note:** Some forest practices may cause temporary adverse environmental or aesthetic impacts. These practices will only cause short-term adverse impacts where they are installed. Special efforts will be made to minimize adverse effects when carrying out any of the practices. Examples include: site preparation, planting, prescribed fires, firebreak installation and maintenance, road installation and maintenance, pesticide applications and timber harvesting.

#### Water Quality Protection

The objective of the landowner is to protect, preserve and enhance all water sources on or transecting the property. This can best be achieved by implementation of Best Management Practices in all aspects of the management of the property.

#### Wildlife Management General

The goal is to provide a diversity of habitats suited for a variety of game and non-game wildlife species. Habitat management will focus on providing a variety of food, cover, water, and space. This will be accomplished, in part, by establishing and maintaining

access roads and firelanes, providing openings within the forest, and leaving mast producing and den trees.

### Timber Management

Timber management goals for this property are to manage timber resources in such a manner as to maximize timber production throughout the life of the stand.

#### **STRATA**

Strata 1

Strata Description
Strata 1: Stand 5

Acres: 44

Cherrybark oak, ash, ironwood, yellow poplar, water oak, sycamore, black cherry and elm are the major species in this area. This area was harvested in 1986 and the culls and undesirable species were injected with herbicide to control them. According to the old plan, this area was scheduled to be planted with loblolly pine on a wide spacing and managed as a mixed pine hardwood stand. It is not known why the pine planting was not done. The area was injected in 1993 to control black locust trees that had invaded the area.

#### Stand Recommendations

This stand will be managed for mixed hardwood production on a 55-year rotation. During this time, management activities such as thinning to remove poor quality trees and improve growth, and controlling undesirable species will be done to keep stands at full production.

Strata 2

Strata Description

Strata 2: Stand 9

Acres: 175

This area contains a stand of pine and hardwood reproduction and areas of undesirable species. An intermediate cut was made in 1993 that brought \$119,445.00 for the schools. We were not satisfied with the condition and composition of the stand after the harvest. A clearcut sale was conducted on this area in 1995 and brought \$52,593.00 for the schools. Streamside Management Zones were left along creeks and drainages. About 128 acres were site prepared with herbicide in 1996 and planted with pine in 1997. Due to a drought that spring, survival was poor on most of this area. We were locked out of the section soon after the planting and we were not able to replant. On recent examinations of the area, it appears to be stocked well enough with desirable species. Oak, gum and pine have become established on the ridges and upper slopes. This should be managed as a mixed pine hardwood stand.

#### Stand Recommendations

This stand will be managed for mixed pine and hardwood production on a 55-year rotation. During this time, management activities such as thinning to remove poor quality trees and improve growth, and controlling undesirable species will be done to keep stands at full production.

Strata 3

Strata Description
Strata 3: Stand 8

Acres: 40

A stand of mixed hardwood sawtimber and pulpwood occupy this area. Major species include cherrybark oak, ash, yellow poplar, white oak, basswood and other species. This stand is fairly well stocked and in good growing condition.

#### Stand Recommendations

This stand will be managed for mixed hardwood production on a 55-year rotation. During this time, management activities such as thinning to remove poor quality trees and improve growth, and controlling undesirable species will be done to keep stands at full production.

#### **Activity Recommendations**

#### Harvest

An intermediate cut or thinning should be conducted in FY 2016 to maintain the growth of the stand. This would be a thinning from below where most of the trees to be cut would come from the lower crown classes. Most of the reserve and preferred growing stock would be left to grow.

Strata 4
Strata Description
Strata 4: Stand 7

Acres: 90

Cherrybark oak, white oak, ash, beech and basswood are among the species that can be found in this stand. The trees are sawtimber and pulpwood size. This area has the steepest slopes on the section. This is also the largest timber on the section. There is some switchcane in the understory. Some of the trees are dying from Hypoxylon Canker. A harvest is needed in this area to salvage some of these trees and improve the growth of the stand.

#### Stand Recommendations

This stand will be managed for mixed hardwood production on a 55-year rotation. During this time, management activities such as thinning to remove poor quality trees and improve growth, and controlling undesirable species will be done to keep stands at full production.

#### **Activity Recommendations**

#### Harvest

An intermediate cut or thinning should be conducted in FY 2012 to maintain the growth of the stand. This would be a thinning from below where most of the trees to be cut would come from the lower crown classes. Most of the reserve and preferred growing stock would be left to grow. This sale has already been marked, but not sold yet.

#### Harvest

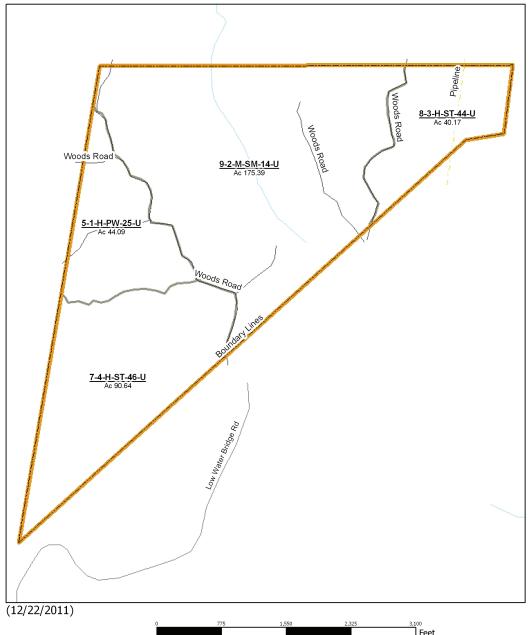
A regeneration harvest is scheduled for fiscal year 2018. A minimum 10 percent cruise will be done on the area before the sale. Sealed bids will be received to maximize income. The timing of this sale and the method of cutting will depend on whether desirable reproduction has become established. Also, it will depend on whether the switchcane has become too thick for reproduction to become established.

#### NATCHEZ-ADAMS SCHOOL DISTRICT



NATCHEZ-ADAMS SCHOOL DISTRICT
S51, T8N, R1W, ADAMS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
2012 to 2021
350 +/- ACRES





## S51, T8N, R1W, ADAMS COUNTY-LEGEND





# Stand Activity Summary for Natchez-Adams School District 51 8N 1W

Filters Applied: County: Adams

Client Class: District:

Client: Natchez-Adams School Dis

STR: 51 8N 1W

Activity:

Year: 2012 Through 2021

STR	Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue	
2012							
51 8N 1W	4	7	Harvest, Mechanical, Thin, Machine, Misc Hardwood	91	\$2,730.00	\$44,954.00	
			Yearly Totals	91	\$2.730.00	\$44.954.00	
2016							
51 8N 1W	3	8	Harvest, Mechanical, Thin, Machine, Misc Hardwood	40	\$1,000.00	\$12,800.00	
			Yearly Totals	40	\$1.000.00	\$12.800.00	
2018							
51 8N 1W	4	7	Harvest, Mechanical, Regeneration, Machine, Misc Hardwood	91	\$3,185.00	\$34,034.00	
			Yearly Totals	91	\$3,185.00	\$34.034.00	
			Grand Totals	222	\$6.915.00	\$91.788.00	